IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions of the claims in the application.

1-30. (canceled)

31. (currently amended): A *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B capsular oligosaccharide (MenB OS) glycoconjugate produced by a method comprising:

(a) providing a heterogenous population of ~~*Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B capsular oligosaccharide (~~MenB OS~~)~~ in which sialic acid residue N-acetyl groups are replaced with ~~N-acyl~~ N-C_3-C_8 acyl groups;

(b) obtaining a substantially homogenous sized group of MenB OS from the population of (a) wherein said group of MenB OS has an average degree of polymerization (Dp) of about 10 to 20;

(c) covalently attaching a C3-C16 long-chain aliphatic lipid to the nonreducing end of the MenB OS obtained in step (b);

(d) introducing a reactive group at ~~a~~ the reducing end of the MenB OS obtained in step (~~b~~ c) to provide single end-activated MenB OS of said DP; and

(e) covalently attaching the single end-activated MenB OS to a protein carrier molecule to provide ~~a MenB OS glycoconjugate comprising~~ the substantially homogenous sized MenB OS glycoconjugate.

32. (currently amended): A *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B capsular oligosaccharide (MenB OS) glycoconjugate produced by a method comprising:

(a) providing a heterogenous population of ~~*Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B capsular oligosaccharide (~~MenB OS~~)~~ in which sialic acid residue N-acetyl groups are replaced with saturated N-propionyl groups;

(b) obtaining a substantially homogenous sized group of MenB OS from the population of (a) wherein said MenB OS have an average degree of polymerization (Dp) of about 12 to 18;

(c) covalently attaching a C3-C16 long-chain aliphatic lipid to the nonreducing end of the MenB OS obtained in step (b);

(d) introducing a reactive group at ~~a~~ the reducing end of the MenB OS obtained in step (b) to provide single end-activated MenB OS of said DP; and

(e) covalently attaching the single end-activated MenB OS to a CRM_{197} bacterial toxoid carrier molecule to provide ~~a MenB OS/CRM_{197} toxoid glycoconjugate comprising~~ the substantially homogenous sized MenB OS/CRM_{197} toxoid glycoconjugate.

33-42. (canceled)

43. (currently amended): The glycoconjugate of claim 31, wherein the reactive group introduced in step (~~e~~ d) comprises an active ester group.

44. (canceled)

45. (previously presented): The glycoconjugate of claim 44, wherein the carrier molecule is a bacterial toxoid.

46. (previously presented): The glycoconjugate of claim 45, wherein the carrier molecule is a nontoxic mutant bacterial toxoid.

47. (previously presented): The glycoconjugate of claim 31, wherein the MenB OS has an average degree of polymerization (Dp) of about 12 to about 18.

48-49. (canceled)

50. (new): A *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B capsular oligosaccharide (MenB OS) glycoconjugate produced by a method comprising:

(a) providing a heterogenous population of MenB OS in which sialic acid residue N-acetyl groups are replaced with N-C_3-C_8 acyl groups;

(b) obtaining a substantially homogenous sized group of MenB OS from the population of (a) wherein said group of MenB OS has an average degree of polymerization (Dp) of about 10 to 20;

(c) introducing a reactive group at the reducing end of the MenB OS obtained in step (b) to provide single end-activated MenB OS of said DP; and

(d) covalently attaching the single end-activated MenB OS to a protein carrier molecule to provide the substantially homogenous sized MenB OS glycoconjugate.

51. (new): The glycoconjugate of claim 50, wherein the reactive group introduced in step (c) comprises an active ester group.

52. (new): The glycoconjugate of claim 50, wherein the carrier molecule is a bacterial toxoid.

53. (new): The glycoconjugate of claim 52, wherein the carrier molecule is a nontoxic mutant bacterial toxoid.

54. (new): The glycoconjugate of claim 53, wherein the nontoxic mutant bacterial toxoid is a CRM_{197} carrier molecule.

55. (new): The glycoconjugate of claim 50, wherein the MenB OS has an average degree of polymerization (Dp) of about 12 to about 18.